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Hardy Flowering Shrubs

A list of the choicest varieties of Shrubs
arranged to produce a succession of bloom
from early Spring till frost



THE HOME BEAUTIFUL

Hardy flowering shrubbery adds beauty and character to the lawn of the home. The above picture, designed by our Mr. Charles E. Greening, portrays the splendid use of shrubbery and Privet hedges for home decoration, arranged in a harmonious manner to produce a warmth of feeling, beauty of color and tasteful composition. All the varieties of shrubs given in this circular are illustrated in colors in the cut above.

Greening Nursery Company

Estab'd
1850

Monroe, Michigan

1500
Acres

OUR LANDSCAPE DEPARTMENT

Should you desire that we draw plans, submit planting lists, and handle your work from start to finish, we will be glad to do so. We have a Landscape Department whose time is entirely given over to doing this work for our patrons. Our Architects will be glad to give your problem individual treatment, and your personal suggestions will be received and acted on.



THE PURPOSE of this circular is to set forth the beauty and characteristics of a few of the standard hardy flowering shrubs. The home lover desires to get the best he can for his money and to get a shrub, whether for specimen or group planting, that will be a real source of satisfaction.

As there are so many kinds, and different varieties of the many kinds, we have here arranged in the order of their blooming period a few of the best-- those which are hardy --those which will develop into things of beauty when mature.

The list includes those that bloom in early spring before the leaves appear, and continues on from month to month until frost --late in the fall.

Therefore, this circular will answer the numerous inquiries we get daily as to what are the best shrubs to plant for decorative purposes.

We give characteristics of each, including habit of growth and other detail, in such a way that every one can understand it.

Hardy Flowering Shrubs

Arranged in the order of their blooming period
during the entire growing season

Forsythia Among the shrubs for early bloom perhaps the *Forsythia* or Golden Bell is the (Golden Bell) most widely known. This family of splendid old shrubs lights up the garden with glittering masses of yellow bloom before the leaves appear. All are entirely hardy and the leaves retain their color until late in the fall. Extreme height about 8 feet, and the flowers are yellow, borne along the branches. The two most popular varieties are the *Fortunei*, which is upright in growth, and the *Intermedia*, which is spreading with slender arching branches. Both are good, grow rapidly and thrive in any good soil. Exceptionally good for planting on the outer margin of shrub groups. Plant about 4 feet apart.

Spirea Thunbergii This shrub is attractive at all seasons of the year. It is spreading in (Thunberg's *Spirea*) growth with arching slender branches and light green, dense foliage. Flowers white, borne in long close racemes along the branches. One of the earliest to flower. Foliage shed late. No insect life bothers this plant. It thrives in any good soil. Its low habit of growth makes it suitable for filling in small spaces or for planting in front of other higher growing shrubs. There is nothing better than this variety for a low, ornamental hedge. Blooms April -- May. Extreme height 3-3½ feet. Dense and bushy. Plant 3 feet apart. One of the most desirable shrubs for banking porches or dwellings.

Cydonia Japonica One of the most attractive spring flowering shrubs. Large scarlet flowers (Japan Quince) produced in masses, before foliage appears. Foliage dark glossy green. Good in hedges, or for massing in shrubbery borders. Very hardy. Thrives in any good soil. Blooms April - May. Extreme height 5 to 6 feet. Dense and spreading. Loves the sun. Plant 4 feet apart.

Spirea Van Houttei One of the most handsome, useful, and best known of the hardy shrubs. (Bridal Wreath) Its white flowers are produced in great masses on arched branches. Foliage dense, deep green. Very hardy. Rapid grower. Thrives in any good soil. Blooms May - June. Extreme height 4 to 6 feet. Considered the best shrub, especially for banking in front of buildings. Very desirable for pruning in hedge forms. Plant three to four feet apart.

Syringa The most common and still the most indispensable of all shrubs is the lilac. There (Lilacs) are so many very desirable improved varieties of this old time flower that even if you have the old fashioned varieties, you can well afford to plant the newer type, such as *Marie Legraye*, a beautiful white, *Mad. Lemoine*, a double white, *Chas. X*, a rosy purple, *Congo*, single red, *President Grevy*, a double blue, and many others which are described in full in our complete catalog. For screens and backgrounds of shrubbery masses, used in separate colors rather than mixed, lilacs produce a most attractive effect. These are all hardy, and thrive anywhere. To produce the best bloom they should be planted by themselves and beyond the reach of large trees. Plant 4 feet apart.

Deutzia (Pride of Rochester) This is a showy, large rose tinted, double-flowering sort that blooms in May, before the other Deutzias. Extreme height 5 to 7 feet. Growth upright and branching. Handsome grower in sun or shade.

Lonicera Tartarica Var. *Rosea* (Tartarian Honeysuckle) This variety is of erect, shrubby habit. It is very attractive, bearing an abundance of fragrant pink flowers which contrast beautifully with the foliage. Bloom followed by brilliant red in autumn. Hardy, rapid grower and thrives in any good soil. We have this in two other colors of bloom: Alba, white and Rubriflora, red. All are the same habit and hardiness and differ only in color of bloom and berries.

Philadelphus Grandiflora (Mock Orange) This is the most fragrant summer flowering white shrub. It is a well known old-timer but is now, and always will be, one of the most popular. Blooms in May - June and forms a large, spreading bush with graceful drooping branches. Bloom white resembling orange blossoms. Extreme height 7 to 10 feet. Growth upright. Good to screen unsightly views and for planting in centers of masses where tall, upright shrubs are required. Hardy; succeeds in either sun or shade. Plant 4 to 5 feet apart.

Deutzia Crenata No other shrub yields better returns for a minimum of care than the Deutzia. This variety, Crenata, is a beautiful white, single-flowered species, growing 6 to 8 feet tall, and a mass of bloom in early June. The flowers are of a dainty bell or tassel shape. Growth: upright, branching. Succeeds in sun or shade. Plant 3 to 4 feet apart.

Diervilla (Weigelia Rosea) This is an old garden favorite with good foliage, bearing bright rose-colored, trumpet shaped flowers, borne in long graceful sprays. Necessary in every shrubby border, large or small. Blooms May - June, just after lilacs. Best flowering shrub of the season. Very striking and attractive. About 6 feet tall, upright spreading growth, beautiful foliage free from insects and diseases. Does well in partial shade. Thrives in any good soil. Very hardy. Plant 4 feet apart.

Viburnum Opulus (High Bush Cranberry) A large bush. Flowers are fertile and develop beautiful clusters of red waxen berries. These form in midsummer and hang on all winter. Attractive red foliage lasts until late in autumn. Blooms May - June. The flowers form a ball-like cluster, 3 to 4 inches in diameter. Grows 6 to 8 feet high, spreading, upright, and medium growing. Useful in center of shrubby masses, as a hedge plant and background for smaller growing shrubs. Very hardy. Plant three feet apart.

Viburnum Opulus Sterilus (Common Snowball) This old time garden favorite blooms in May - June. Flowers are white, produced in large round clusters. Grows 5 to 7 feet tall, upright dense growth. Use for center of shrubby masses or background for small-growing shrubs. Hardy and does well anywhere. Plant 3 feet apart.

Hydrangea Aborescens Sterilis (Hills of Snow) Conspicuous for its huge white panicles of dense balls made up of many little dainty flowers, resembling the Snowball but much larger. Blooms in June - July, earlier than any other Hydrangea. Bush, 3 to 5 feet tall, spreading. Valuable for shrubby mass or hedge, well back from walks or drives. Its large flowers show up effectively from a distance. Hardy, medium grower, succeeds well in shade or sun. Plant 2½ to 3 feet apart.

Diervilla (Weigelia Eva Rathke) Similar to the Diervilla Rosea in general, but the flowers are fragrant, of a beautiful deep carmine, borne in such profusion as to almost entirely hide the foliage. Blooms in June - July, height 5 feet. Thrives best in warm, light soil. Plant 3 feet apart.

Spirea Sorbifolia (Ash-Leaf Spirea) This is a distinct sort of the Spireas having compound leaves. As all Spireas bloom with riotous extravagance they are striking in appearance. This variety is one of the handsomest from a foliage point of view and very desirable as a lawn specimen. Blooms in July - August, with large plumes of purest white. Of medium height. Plant 3 feet apart.

Symphoricarpus Racemosus (Snowberry) One of the daintiest, most attractive small shrubs for planting near walks and drives. Clusters of pearly white berries develop early and hang until late winter. This shrub is very effective in masses in the shrubby border. Bloom appears early in June. Very hardy. Grows 4 to 5 feet tall, drooping gracefully. Thrives in sun or shade. Plant 3 or 4 feet apart.

Buddleia (Butterfly Bush) One of the most admired shrubs of our entire list. Of quick, bushy growth. Reaches the height of four feet in August, when the lovely bloom spikes appear, radiating a delightful perfume. Color of bloom, purplish violet. May freeze down in extreme winters but will grow again and bloom as usual. Flowers hang on till late fall. Plant four feet apart.

Spirea Bumaldi (Anthony Waterer) A compact, low-growing shrub with good, dense foliage, with an abundance of showy crimson flowers. Height 2 or 3 feet. Blooms in August. One of the most useful low shrubs. Very hardy. Thrives everywhere.

Spirea Fortunei (Fortune's Spirea) A beautiful member of the Spirea family, blooming in June and on until September. Growth upright with deep, green foliage which is bright red early in the season. Flowers deep pink in color, forming in large, flat clusters. Very attractive in masses. Hardy. Thrives in any good soil. Plant 4 feet apart.

Hydrangea Paniculata Grandiflora Especially popular because it blooms late in the summer when flowers are scarce. Its huge clusters of flowers, a foot long or more, are larger than those of any other shrub, and its foliage is also beautiful. Bloom white, turning pink with first frost. Bush 3 to 5 feet, tall, upright, spreading, fast growing. Use in shrubbery masses or for border. Thrives best in the sun. Soil should be enriched with manure.

Planting and Pruning Shrubs

PLANTING. Dig the hole large enough to accommodate the roots without bending or crowding them. If the soil is a heavy clay, use sandy or black loam to fill the hole. Plant two inches deeper in the ground than they stood in the nursery, pressing the ground firmly around the roots with foot. Plant so as to leave a slight depression for water to settle. Don't hill up. After planting, apply a fork full of well rotted manure to each plant and thoroughly soak with water to settle the ground.

PRUNING. After planting, prune back all of the wood to ten to twelve inches above the ground. Hydrangeas should be pruned back to 6 inches. Barberry Thunbergii, prune back one-half of the top. Privet hedges, prune back to 5 inches. This method of pruning has a tendency to make them bush out close to the ground, thus preventing the straggly effect often seen.

FUTURE PRUNING. Shrubs should be pruned to regulate their growth and make them graceful. Endeavor to keep the branches well down to the ground. Thin out all old and gnarly stems and always try to preserve a fair fulness of healthy shoots with plenty of twigs for flowers.

PRUNING FOR COMPOUND FORMAL EFFECTS. For group plantings about porches and dwellings, pruning back the top to confine the growth is absolutely necessary. To obtain a compact, bushy form it is necessary to prune early in spring and again in midsummer. Spirea Van Houttei, prune only after blooming. Hydrangea, prune severely early in spring only. Barberry Thunbergii, give a light pruning. Shrubs planted for individual effect should receive only a light pruning.

Many have the mistaken idea that success in beautifying the home place varies with the amount of money spent. Nothing could be further from the truth. Simply keep in mind from the beginning that the object is to attain a certain end -- that of making the home more beautiful -- a picture -- no need to set out a big collection of plants. The most charming results are often obtained with the simplest arrangements. The way in which plants are used will make more difference in determining the degree of satisfaction to be had from the planting than the amount of money spent. A few dollars invested in plants, where good taste is used in arranging them, will transform the whole appearance of the home grounds.

However, enough trees and shrubs should be used to produce a desirable effect. Too few would cheapen the appearance of the home; and to sacrifice the appearance you desire to attain for a few extra dollars, is a serious mistake which cannot be remedied without much added expense and labor.

To those of our many thousands of patrons desiring further information on the subject of landscape planting, large or small, we are pleased to offer our life-long experience as landscape architects and nurserymen.

The Greening Nursery Company
Monroe, Michigan